

Two Poems

By **John E. King**

The Cemetery – Merton's Grave

Thirty years have passed
since he was far out by himself;

Thirty years brought old friends closer
in greened and white-crossed space;

Old foes far out to the right
or right next door;

Now Lamas meditate
and all the fire is turned to green.

Another Paradox

Side by side they lie,
the abbot and his confessor,
the monk and his albatross.

One died at the end of days,
the other in premature fire.

One ever the businessman,
the other ever the poet.

One chafed by the discontented dreamer,
the other chafed by crushed dreams.

Side by side they lie.



John E. King

John E. King is Professor of Social Work at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. He has conducted workshops on Merton in the South and Southwest and has spoken frequently at both ITMS General Meetings and at the Kansas Merton Conferences.